

SECRET



NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

COB-1326
Copy 2 of 8

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Office of Missile and Satellite Systems, USAF
ATTENTION: Brigadier General Richard D. Curtin
SUBJECT: CORONA Program
REFERENCE: Memorandum 24 January 1962, same subject.

1. Pursuant to the directions of referenced memorandum, this office has instructed LMSC, ITXK and G-E to stop work on MURAL Systems 17 through 22 except for long lead time items necessary to protect flights subsequent to August 1962 in accordance with the previous schedule. Contractors were requested to notify the Contracting Officer of estimated cancellation costs of non-long lead time items effected. In addition Contractors were directed to furnish a date on which a decision must be made in order that the long lead time procured items could be converted into system procurement of six MURAL systems.

2. Preliminary information has now been received from the Contractors and is indicative of the following:

a. ITXK - Contractor states that only a few items of procurement can be stopped and at the same time maintain protection of old schedule. And any termination of procurement activity threatens disruption of the downstream schedule. Under these conditions, they state, the decision date to convert long lead time items is already past.

b. G-E - Contractor has verbally indicated the decision date to convert long lead time items is 1 March 1962.

c. LMSC - Contractor has verbally indicated that decision date is 15 March 1962.

3. In view of the foregoing it is imperative that in order to protect the original schedule a go-ahead on completing the six MURAL systems is necessary now. However, if it is desired only to protect a schedule of flights at such later dates a delay in the go-ahead would be appropriate. However, the disruption would surely result in more costly units.

SECRET

SECRETOAS-1380
Page 2

4. Because of the above, the Contractors have been advised not to actually terminate items until 7 February 1962 but merely to stop work on these items until formally notified to terminate. Accordingly, it is requested that the Contracting Officer be informed as soon as possible if it is still the intent of the Air Force to proceed with stop work and cancellation order on the six systems. This would probably result in a delay in schedules, if at a later date it is decided to procure the complete systems. However, in the event it is decided to protect a later schedule of flights a schedule should be furnished to the Contracting Officer in order that a new decision date can be obtained.

FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR (PLANS)

By ILLEGIB

CHARLES W. BENDLI
Colonel, USAF

CS/BPD-ED/P:
Distribution:
cy 1-Addressee
2- "
3-ED/P
4-AC/BPD
5-CS/CS/BPD CONONA File
6-CS/ED/BPD
7-CS/BPD Chrono
8-BL/BPD

SECRET